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LB 395, 632, 699, 989, 1104, 1126

amendment, to try to do that. And this isn't voodoo economics either.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Time. Thank you, Senator. Senator Hillman announces that there are six ninth, tenth and eleventh graders here from Scottsbluff High School with their teachers. (Introduced teachers.) They are seated in the north balcony. Will you all stand and be recognized, please. Welcome to the Legislature. Mr. Clerk, items for the record.

CLERK: Madam President, communication from the Governor to the Clerk (regarding engrossment of LB 989); explanation of vote from Senator Engel (voted aye on LB 395, LB 699 and LB 632); Senator Kiel, amendment to (LB) 1126; confirmation reports from the General Affairs Committee. That's all that I have, Madam President.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Senator Wehrbein, your light is next.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, Madam Speaker, members. I'm going to be philosophical for a few minutes. It's been always my contention that we do strike a fine balance between what people want and what people are willing to pay for, and that's our job as 49 plus the Governor. And obviously we have differences of opinions, and we try to rise at the correct answer. First of all, we aren't really spending this. Those that say, what are you spending your money for, if you look on page 16, the cash reserve is...most of it is going into the cash reserve and is not being spent, so I think that at this point is being responsible. And as I said earlier in the discussion, there are two philosophies; one, do you give it back or, one, do you keep it there for the tough times that are coming? And I've said over and over again, we've had very strong revenue growth in Nebraska, and if anyone in here would guarantee with a bonded check that we will continue on the path that we are at this point, I would be the first to cut sales tax even a one percent, not even a half, I'd cut it the full one. It's the question of what lies ahead that we don't know the answers to. And I have said it over and over again, I'd rather err on the side of conservatism in what the projections are. In addition, Senator Wickersham went down the line pretty well on where we're...where